

What is claimed is:

1. A method of clearing a jam from an image forming device, the method comprising the steps of:

tracking the position of a media sheet moving through a media path;

5 detecting a media jam when the media sheet does not reach a predetermined point on the media path within a predetermined limit;

determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam;

determining which one of a plurality of access points provides access to the media jam in a least damaging and ergonomically correct manner; and

10 displaying the one of the plurality of access points to an operator.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam comprises detecting an amount of time since the media sheet has moved beyond a sensor and the speed of the media
15 sheet moving along the media path.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying a second access point selected from the plurality of access points to access the media sheet when the operator is unable to reach the media sheet through the one of the plurality of
20 access points.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the location of the media jam to the operator.

25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam comprises monitoring feedback from an encoder since the media sheet has moved beyond a sensor.

30 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the position of the media sheet at the time of the media jam comprises using the number of steps taken by a motor.

7. A method of clearing a media jam from an image forming device comprising the steps of:

- detecting a media jam within a media path;
- 5 determining a number of media sheets within the media path;
- determining a location of each of the media sheets along the media path;
- displaying the number of media sheets within the media path;
- determining which of a plurality of access points are to access and remove each of the media sheets; and
- 10 displaying the plurality of access points that are to be opened in an order of priority to remove the media sheets and cause a least amount of damage to the device.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the access points displayed are less than a
15 total number of access points on the image forming device.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of determining which of the plurality of access points are to be opened comprises determining ergonomic requirements for accessing the media sheets through each of the plurality of
20 access points.

10. The method of claim 7, further comprising instructing an operator to keep at least one of the plurality of media sheets within the media path.

25

11. A method of clearing a jam from an image forming device comprising the steps of:

when a jam occurs, detecting the positions of a plurality of media sheets
5 along a media path;

determining an access point to remove each of the plurality of media sheets from the media path based on being least disruptive and ergonomically correct; and

10 displaying the access point for each of the plurality of media sheets on a display.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising displaying a total number of media sheets within the media path at the time of the jam

15 13. The method of claim 11, further comprising displaying two of more of the access points for each of the plurality of media sheets.

14. A method of clearing a jam from an image forming device comprising the steps of:

20 dividing a media path into sections each comprising a length of the media path;

storing within a controller an access point that provides access to each of the sections;

monitoring movement of media sheets along the media path;

25 detecting a jam along the media path and the position of each of the media sheets at the time of the jam;

determining the sections of the media path where each of the media sheets is positioned at the time of the jam;

30 determining the access point that correlates to each of the sections where the media sheets are located; and

displaying the access points.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising storing two or more access points within the controller that give access to each of the sections of the media path.

5

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising displaying a total number of the media sheets within the media path at the time of the jam.

17. A method of clearing a jam from an image forming device comprising the steps of:
- 10 dividing a media path into sections each comprising a length of the media path;
- storing within a controller an access door that provides access to each of the sections;
- 15 monitoring movement of media sheets along the media path;
- detecting a jam along the media path and the position of each of the media sheets at the time of the jam;
- determining the sections of the media path where each of the media sheets is positioned at the time of the jam;
- 20 determining the access door that correlates to each of the sections where the media sheets are located; and
- displaying the access doors.

25

18. An image forming device comprising:

a media path to move media sheets through an image forming unit;

a plurality of access points spread across the image forming device that

5 each provide access to a section of the media path;

a controller operatively connected to a plurality of sensors and a display,

the controller having a first means for detecting the position of a media jam along

the media path and a position of each of the media sheets along the media path

at the time of the media jam, the controller further having a second means for

10 determining a least disruptive and ergonomically correct access point from the

plurality of access points to access each of the media sheets along the media

path.

15